

Mr. President and members of the Senate, I would like to thank you for allowing us SB-260 to come here today to discuss non-citizen voting.

My name is Doreen Kennedy and I am a retired nurse practitioner who has managed a University on-campus primary care practice and taught students in the clinical setting. I am here as a concerned citizen, now living permanently in Cameron, MT (Madison County).

First, a brief overview of what is currently our status on illegal and legal immigrant numbers in the US. The last census (2000) showed 19 million foreign born residents who were not yet citizens and a low estimate of 9-11 million illegal aliens. These numbers have remained fairly static over the years. There are approximately 1.1 million "immigrants" entering our country annually and that number may soon increase if the US Senate has its way. Because of these large numbers, the potential for voter abuse is great while deterrents remain small to nonexistent.

In fact, past claims that while non-citizens have skewed the vote in at least 3 CA federal elections and 2 FL federal elections, the election results stood and deportation charges were never brought against those voting illegally. Two examples of well-publicized improprieties were in southern CA's 47<sup>th</sup> and 50<sup>th</sup> districts. In the 47<sup>th</sup> district, the incumbent lost by a narrow margin and it was shown that, indeed, at least 300 non-citizens voted, but again, the election results stood as originally counted. In the 50<sup>th</sup> district, a Congressional candidate told potential voters "you don't need papers to vote". She lost due to public awareness and strong criticism of her remarks. Reports of voter fraud appear contained to those states with high "immigrant" populations, however, with employers seeking a cheap labor force, claims such as these will now become more widespread as the non-citizen voters disseminate throughout the US.

So, how and why is this all happening? Throughout the US, the Motor Voter Law, which is supposed to make it easier to register to vote at the time we apply for a drivers license, also makes it easier to defraud the system. And some states grant illegal aliens the right to apply for a driver's license. There is also concern that Absentee ballots may be another source of non-citizen voting.

So, in closing, with the large numbers of non-citizen "migrants" currently entering into our country, it becomes even more prudent to establish strong laws insuring that the democratic process is protected for those to whom it truly belongs, the American citizen. Please pass Senate bill number 260. Thank you.